

Message Text

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ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 AGR-05 EB-07 IGA-01 RSC-01 /029 W

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R 291351Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1766

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DEPT PASS AID AND AGRICULTURE

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EAGR EG

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURAL SECTOR SURVEY

REF: CAIRO 23, STATE 6817

1. EMBOFF HAD FIRST OPPORTUNITY IN WEEK TO DISCUSS SURVEY WITH HASSAN ABDULLAH, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE COORDINATOR. ABDULLAH DID NOT KNOW THAT INFORMATION WHICH HE HAD PROMISED BY JAN 15 HAD NOT BEEN TRANSMITTED. AFTER CHECKING, HE FOUND THAT OTHER OFFICES IN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE WHICH HAD BEEN ASKED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION HAD NOT REPLIED. HE SAID HE WOULD FOLLOW UP IN EFFORT TO COLLECT MATERIAL IN QUOTE NEXT FEW DAYS UNQUOTE.

2. ABDULLAH, WHO HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY INFORMED THAT PROPOSED FEBRUARY DATES FOR SURVEY COULD NOT BE MET, SUGGESTED THAT WE WAIT UNTIL GOE MATERIAL IS IN BEFORE DISCUSSING OTHER DATE FOR SURVEY. IN THIS CONNECTION, ABDULLAH RAISED QUESTION OF VISIT OF MINISTER ABDEL AKHER TO UNITED STATES, SAYING MINISTER ANXIOUSLY AWAITING FIXING OF DATES. IT IS ABDULLAH'S OPINION THAT SURVEY SHOULD PRECEDE ABDEL AKHER'S VISIT SO THAT QUOTE CONCRETE RESULTS UNQUOTE COULD COME FROM VISIT. EMBOFF REMINDED ABDULLAH OF PLANNING NATURE OF SURVEY AND CAUTIONED AGAINST TOO HIGH EXPECTATIONS OF ASSISTANCE WHICH MIGHT RESULT. PURPOSE OF SURVEY IS TO ASSIST IN ACTUAL PLANNING PROCESS.

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3. COMMENT: MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE HAS NOT GOTTEN MESSAGE FROM ABDEL AKHER OR ABDULLAH THAT SURVEY IS TO BE PRIORITY, COOPERATIVE ENTURE. WE WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR INFORMATION REQUEST.

4. REGARDING VISIT OF ABDEL AKHER TO US, DEPT AND AGRICULTURE WILL RECALL THAT WE INFORMED HIM IN OCTOBER THAT INVITATION EXTENDED TO PREDECESSOR STILL VALID BUT THAT WE ASSUMED HE WOULD FIRST WANT TO ACQUAINT HIMSELF WITH HIS NEW FUNCTIONS. ABDEL AKHER AGREED AND SAID HE WOULD IN ANY CASE RATHER GO IN COMING SPRING. DEPENDING UPON SECRETARY BUTZ'S SCHEDULE, RECOMMEND THAT WE BE AUTHORIZED SUGGEST A MAY DATE FOR ABDEL AKHER'S VISIT. SURVEY MIGHT THEN TAKE PLACE IN APRIL, DEPENDING OF COURSE ON SATISFACTORY COMPLETION OF PRELIMINARY REQUIREMENTS. EILTS

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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